

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 3, 5, 11 and 12 and ADD new claims 15 and 16 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A remote maintenance repeater used in a remote monitoring system, wherein the remote monitoring system includes ~~a plurality of~~ at least one internetwork ~~connectors~~ connector that ~~respectively connect~~ connects ~~a network with another network~~ plurality of networks and a monitoring apparatus that monitors and remotely maintains the at least one internetwork connector, comprising:

a command receiving unit that receives a command from the monitoring apparatus;

a destination selecting unit that selects a transfer destination device to which the command is to be transferred, wherein the transfer destination device is an internetwork connector or another remote maintenance repeater;

a command transmitting unit that transmits the command to the transfer destination device, at a specific frequency specific to the transfer destination device;

a result receiving unit that receives a result of execution of the command from the transfer destination device at the specific frequency; and

a result transmitting unit that transmits the result to the monitoring apparatus.

2. (original) The remote maintenance repeater according to claim 1, further comprising a substitute radio data relay unit that receives data from a specific internetwork connector by radio and transmits the data to another internetwork connector, upon occurrence of a malfunctioning in a network to which the internetwork connector is connected.

3. (currently amended) A remote maintenance repeater used in a remote monitoring system, wherein the remote monitoring system includes ~~a plurality of~~ at least one internetwork ~~connectors~~ connector that ~~respectively connect~~ connects ~~a network with another network~~ plurality of networks and a monitoring apparatus that monitors and remotely maintains the at least one internetwork connector, comprising:

a command receiving unit that receives a command from the monitoring apparatus;  
an information obtaining unit that obtains an identification information for uniquely identifying a transfer destination device comprising an internetwork connector or another remote maintenance repeater, to which the command is transferred;  
a packet generating unit that generates a control packet including the identification information;  
a radio command transmitting unit that transmits the control packet and the command by radio at a predetermined frequency;  
a radio result receiving unit that receives a result of execution of the command by radio;  
and  
a result transmitting unit that transmits the result to the monitoring apparatus.

4. (original) The remote maintenance repeater according to claim 3, further comprising a substitute radio data relay unit that receives data from a specific internetwork connector by radio and transmits the data to another internetwork connector, upon occurrence of a malfunctioning in a network to which the internetwork connector is connected.

5. (currently amended) An internetwork connector that connects a network with another network, the internetwork connector being connected to a monitoring apparatus that monitors and remotely maintains the internetwork connector by way of a remote maintenance repeater, comprising:

a radio command receiving unit that receives a command from a remote maintenance repeater by radio at a specific frequency specific to the internetwork connector;  
a command executing unit that executes the command; and  
a radio result transmitting unit that transmits a result of execution to the remote maintenance repeater by radio at the specific frequency.

6. (original) The internetwork connector according to claim 5, further comprising a communication unit that transmits the command to an internetwork connector, which does not have a radio communication function, connected to the same network and receives the result of execution via the network.

7. (original) The internetwork connector according to claim 6, further comprising:  
a malfunctioning detecting unit that detects a malfunctioning in a network to which the

internetwork connector is connected;

a medium switching unit that switches a communication medium from the network to the radio based on the detection of malfunctioning;

a substitute data receiving unit that receives data from the remote maintenance repeater by radio; and

a substitute data transmitting unit that transmits the data to the remote maintenance repeater by radio.

8. (original) An internetwork connector that connects a network with another network, comprising:

a radio command receiving unit that receives a control packet and a command from a remote maintenance repeater by radio at a predetermined frequency;

a response judging unit that makes a judgment whether it is appropriate to respond to the remote maintenance repeater based on the identification information included in the control packet;

a responding unit that responds to the remote maintenance repeater based on the judgment;

a command executing unit that executes the command; and

a radio result transmitting unit that transmits a result of execution by radio at the predetermined frequency.

9. (original) The internetwork connector according to claim 8, further comprising a communication unit that transmits the command to an internetwork connector, which does not have a radio communication function, connected to the same network and receives the result of execution via the network.

10. (original) The internetwork connector according to claim 9, further comprising:

a malfunctioning detecting unit that detects a malfunctioning in a network to which the internetwork connector is connected;

a medium switching unit that switches a communication medium from the network to the radio based on the detection of malfunctioning;

a substitute data receiving unit that receives data from the remote maintenance repeater by radio; and

a substitute data transmitting unit that transmits the data to the remote maintenance

repeater by radio.

11. (currently amended) A remote maintenance repeating method for a remote monitoring system, wherein the remote monitoring system includes ~~a plurality of~~ at least one internetwork ~~connectors~~ connector that ~~respectively connect~~ connects a network with another ~~network~~ plurality of networks and a monitoring apparatus that monitors and remotely maintains the at least one internetwork ~~connectors~~ connector, comprising:

receiving a command from the monitoring apparatus;

selecting a transfer destination device comprising an internetwork connector or another remote maintenance repeater, to which the command is to be transferred;

transmitting the command to the transfer destination device by radio at a specific frequency specific to the transfer destination device;

receiving a result of execution of the command from the transfer destination device by radio at the specific frequency; and

transmitting the result to the monitoring apparatus.

12. (currently amended) A maintenance method for an internetwork connector that connects a network with another network, the internetwork connector being connected to a monitoring apparatus that monitors and remotely maintains the internetwork connector by way of a remote maintenance repeater, comprising:

receiving a command from a remote maintenance repeater by radio at a specific frequency specific to the internetwork connector;

executing the command; and

transmitting a result of execution to the remote maintenance repeater by radio at the specific frequency.

13. (original) A computer program that realizes a remote maintenance repeating method for a remote monitoring system on a computer, wherein the remote monitoring system includes a plurality of internetwork connectors that respectively connect a network with another network and a monitoring apparatus that monitors and remotely maintains the internetwork connectors, the computer program making the computer execute:

receiving a command from the monitoring apparatus;

selecting a transfer destination device comprising an internetwork connector or another remote maintenance repeater, to which the command is to be transferred;

transmitting the command to the transfer destination device by radio at a specific frequency specific to the transfer destination device;  
receiving a result of execution of the command from the transfer destination device by radio at the specific frequency; and  
transmitting the result to the monitoring apparatus.

14. (original) A computer program that realizes a maintenance method for an internetwork connector that connects a network with another network on a computer, the computer program making the computer execute:  
receiving a command from a remote maintenance repeater by radio at a specific frequency specific to the internetwork connector;  
executing the command; and  
transmitting a result of execution to the remote maintenance repeater by radio at the specific frequency.

15. (new) A remote maintenance repeater used in a remote monitoring system, wherein the remote monitoring system includes at least one internetwork connector that respectively connects a plurality of networks and a monitoring apparatus that monitors and remotely maintains the at least one internetwork connector, comprising:

a command receiving unit that receives a command from the monitoring apparatus;  
a destination selecting unit that selects a transfer destination device from a plurality of transfer destination devices, wherein each transfer destination device is an internetwork connector or another remote maintenance repeater, each transfer destination having an individual operating frequency;  
a command transmitting unit that selects a transmission frequency to match the individual operating frequency of the transfer destination device and that transmits the command to the transfer destination device at the individual operating frequency of the transfer destination device;  
a result receiving unit that receives a result of execution of the command from the transfer destination device at the specific frequency; and  
a result transmitting unit that transmits the result to the monitoring apparatus.

16. (new) A remote maintenance repeater according to claim 15, wherein at least two of the transfer destination devices have the same individual operating frequency.